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Bok, Derek

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## Bok comments on CIA

By Elaine Douglass

"The CIA cannot be bound by rules made by a university," CIA Director Stansfield Turner said on a recent broadcast of the CBS program "Face the Nation."

On the October 22 network program, Turner reaffirmed the CIA's intention to ignore any university regulations which prohibit members of an academic community from establishing secret contacts with US intelligence agencies. Turner characterized such regulations as "discrimination" against the CIA.

The CIA's unwillingness to respect university regulations barring secret contacts was first revealed last summer by Harvard President Derek C. Bok in testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Harvard has regulations, issued in May 1977, which allow aboveboard contacts with intelligence agencies, but forbid secret or confidential relationships.

In his Senate testimony, given July 20 of this year, Bok presented letters from CIA Director Turner stating that despite the Harvard regulations or similar regulations in any other American university, the Agency would continue to use academics in intelligence-gathering operations and would continue to seek help from academics in identifying university persons who might be recruited as undercover CIA agents. Bok asked the Senate to help US universities restrain the CIA.

The CIA is particularly interested in recruiting foreign students as spies in their home countries, Bok told the Senate.

Harvard set up a committee which drafted regulations on con-

tacts with intelligence agencies after the US Senate revealed in April 1976 that the CIA has "clandestine relationships" with academics in over 100 American universities. MIT also has a committee to study its relationship with the intelligence agencies, which was established in January 1978 by Chancellor Paul Gray '54. In addition, MIT in June placed a Freedom of Information Act request with CIA to obtain CIA files relating to the Institute.

In order to identify a candidate, Bok continued, "The professor might probe the student's views on international affairs to advise the CIA with respect to the student's attitudes. The professor might ask questions about the student's financial situation, not for the purpose of helping the student but to provide additional information to the CIA. The professor might invite the student to social occasions in order to gain additional information."

"Many of these [foreign] students are highly vulnerable, Bok stated. "They are frequently young and inexperienced, often short of funds and away from their homelands for the first time."

Bok then described the "operational use of academics abroad," another CIA practice to which Harvard objects. "A professor's academic status is used as a cover to engage in activities which presumably include collecting intelligence on instructions from the CIA, playing a role in a covert CIA activity, or par-

As an example of the harm that

can result," Bok continues, "A decade ago one scholar revealed that his research findings in Nepal had, unknown to him, been regularly reported to the CIA. Participating in some other way in CIA operations."

"This kind of operational use of academics," Bok said, "inevitably casts doubt on the integrity of the efforts of the many American academics who work abroad and... may make it difficult for them to pursue their interest in foreign countries."

Bok said that the CIA has cited three reasons why it will not respect the Harvard guidelines. First, "The CIA believes it has been unfairly singled out as the object of special restrictions, but in fact our guidelines cover all US intelligence agencies," he declared.

Second, he said, "The CIA asserts that Harvard's guidelines interfere unjustly with the freedom of individual professors... to offer their services to the government." In this instance, Bok said, "Harvard does claim the right to promulgate rules which prevent behavior that may compromise [Harvard's] mission."

Finally, "The CIA has argued that it must disregard our guidelines in the interests of national security. Although the CIA emphasizes the immense benefits we receive from extensive relationships with scholars and academic institutions throughout the country, it insists upon the right to use financial inducements or other means of persuasion to cause our professors and employees to ignore our rules of employment and enter into secret relationships."